

Visual Artist Christine Joy: Sculptural Willow Basket Forms

Christine Joy, a contemporary art basket maker, holds a Masters of Arts in Art Therapy from Vermont College of Norwich University and a BA with a major in Printmaking from Rochester Institute of Technology.

Joy received glowing reviews from panelists judging applications for the Montana Arts Council's 2013 Artist's Innovation Award. One panelist called Joy's baskets "fantastic. ... I see answers to questions I didn't know I had." Another explained that "you can feel her expanding her materials in a way that is important and impressive. ... They are just amazing."

Joy's woven sculptures bring to mind everything from nests and human figures to clouds and tornadoes. She describes her own work as "time made visible. They [the basket sculptures] are a spiral of time repeating and repeating."

"My focus at this time is making visible the movement of air, water and time," she writes. "Watching the clouds form and reform overhead and thinking about the fact that the whole world is swaddled in clouds feeds my imagination. Attempting to weave clouds I want them to take on the flow and motion I see in the sky. Watching the creek moving constantly away ... influences the lines I weave into my work."